

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

At page 1, line 1, please amend the paragraph inserted by the Preliminary Amendment filed March 31, 2004, as follows:

This application is a continuation of U.S. application 09/970,663, filed on October 5, 2001, issued on May 11, 2004, as U.S. Patent No. 6,734,008, which is a continuation of PCT/FR00/00879 filed on April 7, 2000, and claims benefit of priority of U.S. provisional application No. 60/132,120, filed April 30, 1999, and French application 99/04443, filed April 9, 1999, each of which is incorporated by reference herein.